

REMARKS

The present application is being filed as a continuation of Serial No. 09/844,261, filed April 27, 2001. A notice of allowance has previously been entered in the parent application, allowing claims 1, 2, 7 and 10 – 22. Payment of the issue fee was required by August 8, 2003; such payment will not be made, in favor of this continuation application, which is being filed so as to allow a correction of inventorship.

The assignee of the present invention, Flex Products, Inc. learned in May 2003 that there had been an error in inventorship, and that employee Thomas Mayer was a joint inventor of claims 21 and 22. Papers were prepared in May 2003 for use in correction of inventorship, with the intent of filing a petition to correct inventorship well prior to August 8, 2003.

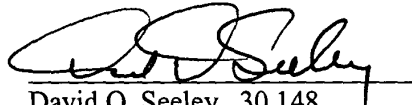
One of the inventors in this matter, Charlotte R. LeGallee, is no longer an employee of Flex Products, Inc. Contact was made with her, and she orally indicated that she had reviewed the papers and that she was in agreement with the need to add Thomas Mayer as an additional inventor. She expressed a willingness to sign and return the necessary documents. Unfortunately, the executed documents were not returned to Flex Products, Inc. and continuing attempts to obtain them have been fruitless up to this date.

As stated above, the present continuation application is being filed in order to allow additional time within which to obtain the necessary executed documents from Charlotte R. LeGallee, and the parent application is being allowed to go abandoned for failure to pay the issue fee. The claims set forth in the present amendment are the claims that were allowed in the parent case, and Applicants request that they also be found allowable in the present application, subject to completing the formalities necessary to allow the issue of inventorship to be reviewed by the Examiner. Although the signature of Charlotte R. LeGallee is missing from the new Declaration

filed herewith, which includes Thomas Mayer as an additional inventor, efforts will continue to be made to obtain her signature for filing in connection with the present application.

Applicants file concurrently herewith a petition to correct the inventorship in this matter, together with supporting documents signed by all of the necessary parties except Charlotte R. LeGallee. Again, additional efforts shall be made to obtain her signature in support of the petition to correct inventorship.

DATED this 8th day of August, 2003.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David O. Seeley", written over a horizontal line.

David O. Seeley, 30,148
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